Industrialists' request for dropping of wealth tax

310. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some delegation of leading industrialists of the country have requested for dropping proposal for wealth tax;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some action on these requests;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) They have requested that amendment proposed in the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1991 regarding valuation of unquoted shares in investment companies be dropped and the existing provisions in this regard be retained.

(c) to (e) The matter is under consideration.

Raids on Oswal Group of Industries

311. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of raids regarding Income Tax, excise and customs etc. that have been made on the office and residential premises of Oswal Group of Industries by different departments; and

(b) what are the details of the outcome of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Malaria cases in Rajasthan

312. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-spraying of insecticides valued at Rs. 298.12 lakhs by the State Medical and Health Department (Malaria), there is big increase in malaria positive cases in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) As per reports received from the Government of Rajasthan, there has been decrease in the number of malaria cases during 1990 as compared to that in 1988 and 1989 as under:—

Year	No. of malaria cases reported
1988	1,04,109
1989	1,12,316
1990	85,864

The spray coverage achieved during the last three years is given below:—

Spray coverage (%age)

Type of Insecticides used	1988		1989		1990	
	Population	Rooms	Population	Rooms	Population	Rooms
DDT	75·0	60·0	72·0	58·0	60·0	50·0
BHC	70·0	55·0	60·0	50·0	60·0	56·0